MSG 101 - RED FD08 PAYLOAD SUMMARY

FREESTAR

MEIDEX continues to analyze the Sprite data gathered thus far. An intriguing upper atmosphere glow was observed in the images provided by the crew. This may be a new atmospheric phenomena not observed before.

After further review by the SOLSE team they have concluded that the earth view data for the second science set is present in the data they received. They are still investigating log files to determine what may have happened to the data for the earth view from the first science set. Data for limb views is good.

The second CVX-2 critical period completed on-time at 6/10:00 MET and the experiment is performing well.

From 5/12:00 to 6/12:00 MET LPT completed 11 separate events. Data files of pictures and signatures provided by students from Patterson High School in Baltimore, Maryland and Nantucket Elementary School in Nantucket, Massachusetts were transferred to and from the payload bay mounted instrument over LPT RF links.

SOLCON is completing 2 solar observations at the end of the Blue FD08 shift.

SPACEHAB

SPACEHAB subsystems are nominal, although the WSA remains unpowered and we continue to use the Orbiter system for atmospheric moisture removal

SPACEHAB payloads generally continue to perform well. We recognize that this is largely the result of an enormous amount of extra effort from the whole crew, and the entire SPACEHAB team wants you to know how much we appreciate the effort!

Specific payload highlights so far include:

CM2 LSP activities for the mission are complete, and with a lot of hard work from the crew, fourteen of the scheduled fifteen runs were successfully conducted. The PI believes that he has gotten excellent science returns from LSP, and is anxious to begin a more detailed analysis of the data. A special Kudos to Mike Anderson for dedication "above and beyond" in obtaining the fourteenth LSP run! SOFBALL has been experiencing some "teething problems" during initial preparation for their first run, but it is hoped that subsequent operations will be less problematic.

MGM has now realized the completion of six of their nine runs. A re-run of the previously cancelled run number 3 is being planned to take advantage of the successful reform of the repeated run number 2.

MSTRS is finally having some success in resolving the data problem that has been plaguing them, and completed two successful runs yesterday.

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Biopack operations are now normal, with all systems working as planned. The freezer was switched on again at MET 05/11:43 and now is at its nominal temperature of -14 C. An inspection has been scheduled at MET 06:22 to verify the cause of the incubator door getting stuck during an earlier Biopack operation. It is suspected that the there may be interference between the thermal shield attached to the front panel and the main power connector impeding a complete opening of the panel. We would like to request that future manipulation of the freezer contents should be done carefully (slowly) in order to minimize any additional pressure differential that may be caused by the "pumping" action resulting from moving the freezer trays into and out of the unit.

VCD managed another run yesterday, thanks to cooler water temperatures allowed by a reconfiguration of the water loop.